

REMARKS

As an initial matter, applicant appreciates the Examiner's patience throughout the prosecution of this application. Applicant is eager to avoid any further unnecessary prosecution and hopes to reach an agreement with the Examiner regarding this application. Accordingly, Applicant plans to request an interview with the Examiner, in an effort to expedite the prosecution of this application.

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed November 26, 2007. This Response addresses each of the issues raised by the examiner in the Office Action. In addition, this response is not believed to raise new issues. Accordingly entry of this Office Action and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims

In the prosecution of this application, claims 1-17, 20, 22-30 and 32-34 have been examined. The claims stand rejected under 35 USC 103. Independent claims 1, 20, 26 and 30 have been amended.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

On Page 2 of the Office Action mailed November 26, 2007, claims 1-17, 20, 23-30 and 32-34 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer, Van Dort, and Silver, as further evidenced by Matrix Vision. Applicant hereby addresses these rejections given the amendments to independent claims 1, 20, 26 and 30.

By way of background, Applicant provides a novel system for initiating communication between a user interface and a vision processor. In this system, there are a plurality of distinct vision processors (VPs) and a distinct user interface (UI), each being on a respective distinct

computing platform. This novel system enables a distinct UI in communication with a first VP on a first respective distinct computing platform to establish communication with a plurality of distinct VPs, each on a respective distinct computing platform.

The prior art, neither alone, nor when taken in combination, teach such a communication system in which a plurality of distinct VPs and a distinct UI, each on a respective distinct computing platform, communicate over a network. The Examiner has conceded, on page 4 of the Office Action, that Meyer and Van Dort “fail to explicitly teach the communication of the plurality of VPs and the UI over a network”. The Examiner points to the Silver reference for providing communication of a plurality of VPs and a UI over a network.

However, upon a thorough reading of the Silver reference, Silver does not appear to teach a network in the manner as described and now-claimed by applicant. It does not contemplate a system having a plurality of distinct VPs and a distinct UI, each on a respective distinct computing platform.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 20, 26 and 30 have been amended to reflect the structure of applicant’s novel system in which there are a plurality of “distinct VPs and a distinct machine vision UI, each on a respective distinct platform” (as quoted by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed March 14, 2006). In claim 1 (with similar amendments to other independent claims 20, 26 and 30), each VP is now a distinct VP, each being on a respective distinct VP computing platform. Additionally, the machine vision UI is a distinct machine vision UI, on a respective distinct UI computing platform. Amendments have been made to claim 1 to clarify the system as including a plurality of distinct VPs and at least one distinct machine vision UI, each on a respective distinct computer platform.

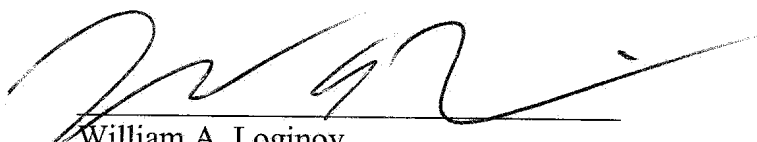
Accordingly, the amendments to independent claims 1, 20, 26 and 30 are believed to distinguish over the prior art by clarifying that the system employs a plurality of distinctive VPs and a distinctive UI, each on a respective distinct computing platform. Given that claim 1 (and similarly amendment claims 20, 26 and 30) is now believed to be distinguishable over the prior art, rejections to any claims depending therefrom are deemed to also now have been overcome.

The claims should now be in condition for allowance with each of the objections and/or rejections being addressed or traversed. Accordingly applicant respectfully requests the examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance at the earliest possible date.

Should any unresolved issues remain that require, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney for applicant at 603-336-3026 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Please charge any fee or fee deficiency that is otherwise unpaid to Deposit Account Number 502834.

Respectfully Submitted,



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